

## STANDARD 1 - ORDINANCE

The tree ordinance must designate the establishment of a tree board or forestry department and give this body the responsibility for writing and implementing an annual community forestry work plan. Beyond that, the ordinance should be flexible enough to fit the needs and circumstances of the particular community.

A tree ordinance provides an opportunity to set good policy and back it with the force of law when necessary. Ideally, it will provide clear guidance for planting, maintaining and removing trees from streets, parks and other public places. For tips and a checklist of important items to consider in writing or improving a tree ordinance, see Tree City Bulletin No. 9. Local examples are listed below:

**City of Grandview's** [ordinance clearly states management authority](#) for the urban forestry program. The ordinance includes definitions, requires permission for tree removals, and requires replacements for all removal. It also addresses management concerns associated with private trees that may impact public property, or the city's community forest.

The **City of Lynnwood** ordinance relates to the [preservation and regulation](#) of trees. Tree removal and replacement is based on "tree unit," defined by size classes, and requires a permit. A Tree Fund is established in a separate ordinance.

The **City of Olympia** has several tree ordinances including the following: a street tree ordinance, [tree protection and replacement](#), public trees, clearing, landmark trees.

The **City of University Place** establishes the community forestry program within the chapter on [Vegetation on Public Property](#).